



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF EVENT: 10/03/ 2016
TYPE OF EVENT: Structure fire
LOCATION: 1433 W. Upjohn Ave.
CHARGES: None
SUSPECTS: None

On 10-3-16 at 0626 hrs. Officers of the Ridgecrest Police Department responded to 1433 W. Upjohn Ave. for a structure fire. When the Officers arrived, they saw that the double wide mobile home was fully engulfed. There was very heavy smoke and the front of the mobile home was collapsing. Officer Ballesteros and Officer Garibay went to the rear of the mobile home and saw one of the occupants, Richard Dean Lawson age 58, partially hanging out of the rear bedroom window. It appeared to the Officers that Lawson was overcome with smoke and unable to climb out of the window. With flames billowing out of the top of the mobile home and heavy smoke coming from the window, both officers went to the window and pulled Lawson to safety. Within a few seconds after rescuing Lawson the room was engulfed in flames.

Mr. Lawson was transported to Ridgecrest Regional Hospital where he is being treated for smoke inhalation. The mobile home was completely destroyed and the cause is under investigation by the Kern County Fire Department.

RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police
PREPARED BY: Sgt. Ron Bell